



Bureau of Land Management Western Montana Resource Advisory Council

Western Montana District Office, 106 N. Parkmont, Butte, MT 59457

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Michael Gibson
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Martin Balukas
Dave Kirsch
Mark Sweeney

June 18, 2012

Scott Haight, Field Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Butte Field Office
106 N. Parkmont
Butte, MT 59701

Dear Mr. Haight,

The Western Montana Bureau of Land Management Resource Advisory Council met June 12, 2012 to discuss the BLM's response to the report by a RAC subcommittee on increasing public use fees at recreation sites managed by the BLM's Butte Field Office. The RAC members at the meeting voted unanimously to support the BLM's final proposed fee increase. Absent from the meeting and not voting were members Nate Finch and Mark Sweeney. The fee increase proposal is as follows:

1. Increase camping fees on BLM's major sites on Holter and Hauser Lakes near Helena from \$10 per night to \$15. On BLM's river sites (Holter Dam and Divide), increase the camping fee from \$6 to \$10.
2. Increase the day-use fee on Holter and Hauser from \$2 to \$5 except for White Sandy day-use which would increase to \$5 from no fee. This does not include the Holter Dam site which would remain fee-free.
3. Establish new camping fees at East Bank, Dickie Bridge, and Bryant Creek on the Upper Big Hole River pending the completion of improvements at Bryant Creek and amenities provided at all three sites. An appropriate fee for these sites will be proposed to the RAC once site improvements at Bryant Creek are complete.
4. No camping fees are proposed at Galena Gulch and Crow Creek.
5. Increase the BLM seasonal day-use pass from \$25 to \$40/season at the reservoir fee sites.

Sincerely,

Bob Walker
RAC Chair

RAC Subgroup **BLM Fees – 2010 and Proposed**

REC Site	Current Camp Fees	Current Day-Use Fees	2010 Collections	2010 O&M Costs	Proposed Camp Fees	Proposed Day-use Fees	Projected Revenue from Proposed Fees	NOTE
Holter Lake	\$ 10	\$ 2	\$ 40,200	\$ 70,954	\$ 15	\$ 5/vehicle	\$ 67,571	Reservoir
Log Gulch	\$ 10	\$ 2	\$ 40,700	\$ 69,457	\$ 15	\$ 5/vehicle	\$ 57,739	Reservoir
Departure Point	\$ 10	\$ 2	\$ 2,000	\$ 9,465	\$ 15	\$ 5/vehicle	\$ 3,124	Reservoir
Clark's Bay	\$ 0	\$ 2	\$ 7,700	\$ 18,400	\$ 0	\$ 5/vehicle	\$ 18,228	No camp
Devil's Elbow	\$ 10	\$ 2	\$ 27,200	\$ 54,898	\$ 15	\$ 5/vehicle	\$ 50,656	Reservoir
White Sandy	\$ 10	\$ 0	\$ 21,700	\$ 34,800	\$ 15	\$ 5/vehicle	\$ 42,081	Reservoir
Holter Dam	\$ 6	\$ 0	\$ 4,300	\$ 18,332	\$ 10	\$ 5/vehicle	\$ 12,066	River
Divide CG	\$ 6	\$ 0	\$ 6,800	\$ 10,600	\$ 10	\$ 0	\$ 9,381	River
East Bank	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 7,000	\$ 10	\$ 0	\$ 3,500	River
Dickie Bridge	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 6,000	\$ 10	\$ 0	\$ 3,000	River
Bryant Creek	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 4,000	\$ 10	\$ 0	\$ 3,500	River
Galena Gulch	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 8,000	\$ 10	\$ 0	\$ 2,700	River
Crow Creek	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 6,000	\$ 10	\$ 0	\$ 2,200	River
TOTAL			\$ 150,600	\$ 317,906			\$ 275,746	

Seasonal Day-Use Fee	Current	Proposed	NOTES
	\$ 25	\$ 40	Only for those sites with day-use fees